June 28, 2011

**Electronic Copy** 

To Whom It May Concern:

The Montana Department Of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Northeastern Land Office, worked in conjunction with the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau Of Land Management (BLM), in the preparation of the Judith-Moccasin Environmental Assessment. A part of this project, the Maiden Peak Timber Sale was completed in 2007 in section 36, T17N, R19E.

Due to the increased infestation of pine beetles, the proposed Maiden Salvage Timber Sale is being proposed. Management objectives for this sale are to generate income for the School Trust Fund, reduce insect and disease potential and fuel loads. The proposed sale will treat approximately 35 acres of predominately mature Lodgepole Pine timber, through a combination of 3 small patch cut units (8, 13 and 14 acres). No new road construction will be necessary to harvest approximately 300 M board feet of timber to meet Department objectives.

DNRC would like public input regarding the proposal to harvest timber on this tract. Please direct written or oral comments and questions to Ron Buck, MT DNRC, 613 NE Main, PO Box 1021, Lewistown, MT. 59457; telephone – (406) 538-7789. Comments need to be received by August 1, 2011.

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Buck DNRC - NELO Area Forester